

FOLIO GAME SERIES

Acre

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BATTLES OF THE MEDIEVAL WORLD: VOLUME I



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The *Battles of the Medieval World* game system is a grand tactical simulation of battles fought from around 500-1300 AD. Each game in the system represents one of the great battles of the medieval period. The system itself modifies the *Battles of the Ancient World* system to account for the greater use and coordination of archery, the much smaller infantry components in these battles and the corresponding increase in the role of cavalry.

The playing pieces represent the actual units that participated in the battles, and the map represents the terrain over which those units fought. This game series has been designed to ensure maximum playability and historical accuracy (in that order). To achieve that, the components and rules have been designed to make the game easy to understand and play.

The rules in the series are presented in two sections: the Standard Rules and the Exclusive Rules. The Standard Rules are common to all the games in the series. The Exclusive Rules are different for each game, and they give scenario instructions and rules that apply only to that particular battle.

2.0 GAME EQUIPMENT

2.1 The Game Map

Each mapsheet portrays the area in which a battle was fought and all the significant terrain of the battle. The map also has a Terrain Key and a Turn Record Track. A hexagonal grid is superimposed over the

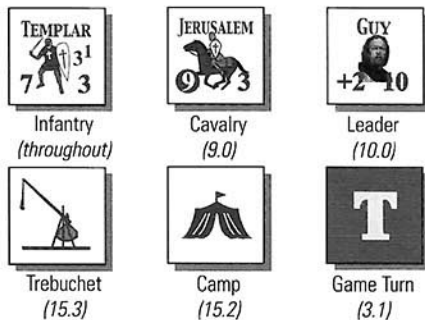
terrain features printed on the map to regulate movement and the positioning of the playing pieces. All numbered hexes are playable, though some types of terrain are prohibited.

2.2 Game Charts & Tables

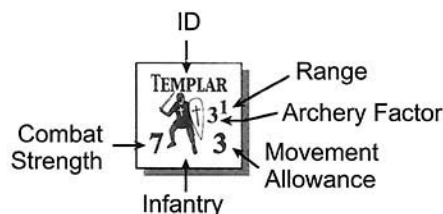
Various visual aids are provided on the Player Aid Card to simplify and illustrate certain game functions. They are the Terrain Effects Chart, the Combat Results Table, the Archer Fire Table, and the Rally, Demoralization & Disintegration Table.

2.3 The Playing Pieces

The cardboard pieces (counters) represent the military units that took part in the original battle. The numbers and symbols on the pieces represent the strength, movement capability and type of unit represented by that piece. These playing pieces will hereafter be referred to as "units."



Each unit has certain information printed on it. They are identified by numerals and/or nationality, and contain information about their combat and movement capabilities.



The combat strength is the relative strength of a unit when attacking and defending (see 6.0).

The movement allowance is the speed with which a unit may move across the map (see 4.0).

The archery strength and range (if any) determine the unit's ability to carry out archery fire (see 7.0).

2.4 Game Scale (Series)

Each hexagon represents 100-200 meters. Each combat unit represents between 100 and 1,000 men. Each game turn represents 30 to 90 minutes.

3.0 SEQUENCE OF PLAY

3.1 Game Sequence

After punching out and sorting the counters, decide which player will command each side. Place the Game Turn marker in the Turn 1 box of the Turn Record Track on the map. Set up the opposing forces according to Rule 14.0 of the exclusive rules. Play the requisite number of game turns (3.2) to achieve the victory conditions (3.3) established in the exclusive rules.

3.2 Game Turns

The game is played in successive game turns composed of alternating player turns. The first player is identified in the exclusive rules. The player whose player turn it is at a given moment is referred to as the active player, his units as the active units.

First Player Turn

A. Movement Phase: the first player may move all, some or none of his units within the limits of rules 4.0-6.0. In some scenarios, the player may bring reinforcements; see the exclusive rules.

B. Archery Fire Phase: both players may now use their units with archery capability to fire at enemy units (see 7.0).

C. Combat Phase: the first player conducts regular combat (see 6.0).

D. Reorganization & Rally Phase: roll a die for each disordered unit to determine if it reorganizes (flipped to their front/stronger side; 11.0). In some games, leaders may also be able to rally forces such that a unit removed from play returns to the game. Place those rallied units according 11.0 and the Exclusive Rules.

Second Player Turn

The second player now goes through the sequence of play in the manner described above. In each phase, the second player carries out the same actions as the first player and vice versa.

Game Turn Record Interphase

If the last turn is finished, determine victory (3.3), otherwise advance the Game Turn marker one space on the Turn Record Track and start the next game turn.

3.3 Victory

Either player wins an immediate and automatic victory if the opposing army disintegrates (16.1).

If neither side disintegrates by the last turn of the game, victory is awarded to the player with the greatest number of victory points (VP). Players may receive VP per the Exclusive Rules.

3.4 Levels of Victory

The long-term effect of a victory will depend on its decisiveness. To determine this divide the winner's total of VP by the defender's total of VP (round as for combat – see 7.2).

More than 1:1 = Marginal Victory
More than 2:1 = Important Victory
Disintegration = Epic Victory

4.0 MOVEMENT

4.1 Movement Generally

During the movement phase, the current player may move as many or as few of his units as he desires. They may be moved in any direction or combination of directions, but units are moved one at a time, tracing a path of contiguous hexes through the hex grid. As a unit enters each hex, it must pay the cost of entering that hex from its movement allowance (see 4.2).

Movement may never take place out of sequence. A player's units may be moved only during his own movement phase, though units may retreat or advance as a result of combat (see 6.0).

Once a unit has been moved, and the player's hand is taken from the piece, it may not be moved any farther that phase, nor may it change its move without the consent of the opposing player. Once a player has begun to resolve archery or combat, he has irreversibly ended the movement phase.

4.2 Movement Points & Terrain

A unit's movement allowance (MA) is given in movement points (MP). The number of MP expended by a unit during a single movement phase may not exceed that unit's printed movement allowance (MA). A unit may expend any portion of its MA, but unused MP may not be accumulated or transferred to another unit.

A unit must expend one MP to cross a clear terrain hexside into a clear hex. To enter or cross other types of terrain, the unit may have to expend additional MP. The MP cost of each type of terrain is printed on the terrain key on the map. Regardless of such terrain, a unit moving along a trail or road (from one trail/road hex across a hexside containing that path into an adjacent hex containing that path) expends only one MP.

4.3 Movement Effects of Friendly Units

A unit may move through a hex occupied by another friendly unit at no additional cost (pay only the normal terrain cost for that hex). There is no limit to the number

of friendly units that may pass through a single hex during one movement phase.

A friendly unit may not end any phase (movement or combat) stacked in the same hex with another friendly unit (but see 10.0 and the Exclusive Rules for exceptions).

The zones of control (see 5.0) of friendly units never inhibit the movement of friendly units.

4.4 Movement Effects of Enemy Units

A unit may never enter a hex containing an enemy unit.

A unit may never exit a hex in an enemy zone of control (see 5.0) during movement. An EZOC may be left only during a retreat or advance as a result of combat.

5.0 ZONES OF CONTROL

5.1 Exerting Zones of Control

The six hexes immediately surrounding a unit constitutes its zone of control (ZOC). All units except those printed with a black dot (see 8.0) exert a ZOC throughout the game turn, regardless of the phase or player turn. The presence of ZOC is never negated by enemy or friendly units or by other ZOC.

Any number of ZOC may be exerted onto a single hex at a given time. Each retains its effect regardless of the presence of other ZOC, friendly and/or opposing.

ZOC are not exerted across a hexside or into a hex prohibited to movement by the exerting unit.

5.2 ZOC Effects on Movement

All units must cease movement when they enter an EZOC. There is no MP cost to enter the EZOC.

Most units exit an EZOC only by being eliminated or by retreating or advancing after combat (see 6.0). Light troops and leaders may leave and EZOC (see 8.0 & 10.0 respectively).

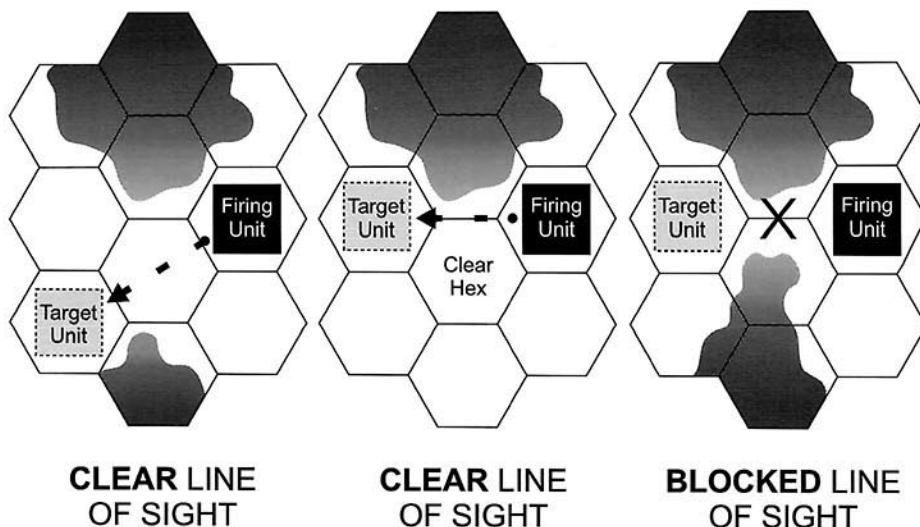
5.3 ZOC Effects on Combat

An active unit beginning its combat phase in an EZOC must attack; an inactive unit in an active unit's ZOC at the beginning of a combat phase must be attacked.

6.0 ARCHERS

By medieval times, archers had become an integral feature of many infantry formations. In this game, units with archers may attack by firing (sometimes at range) at opposing units

ARCHERY ATTACK LINE OF SIGHT



both offensively and defensively. That occurs in the archery phases, which precede the melee combat conducted during the combat phase.

6.1 Archery Attacks

Units with archery capability may fire once per archery phase. Archers are permitted an unlimited number of archery attacks in the game.

The active player's archery units fire first (6.3-6.4) in any order desired by the active player. When all active archery has been resolved, eligible inactive units may fire defensively (6.5) in any order desired by the inactive player.

A lone leader may not be targeted by archery (see 10.3).

Archer units are never forced to make an archer attack. Archer units may use archery fire and engage in combat during the same player turn.

6.2 Archery Procedure & Effects

Resolve each archery attack using the following steps:

1. Determine Firing Unit & Target (6.3).
2. **Resolve the Fire.** Roll one die; if the roll is less than or equal to the firing unit's fire factor, the target unit is hit; if the roll is greater than the fire factor, there is no effect.
3. **Apply the Hit.** If the target unit is hit, flip it to its reverse (Disorganized) side. Additional Disorganized results against a disorganized unit have no effect. Firing units are not affected (but may be subject to defensive fire).

Player Note. Archery by itself does not eliminate enemy units, but softens them prior to an impending combat, or may pin cavalry and other light troops.

6.3 Offensive Archery

Each archery unit attacks alone. A single defending unit may be targeted by more than one firing unit, but all firing units must be declared before resolving the first fire.

6.4 Ranged Fire

An archery unit with a range of "1" may fire only at adjacent targets. An archery unit with a range greater than "1" may fire at non-adjacent units within range, but if there is an adjacent eligible target (a non-disrupted enemy unit) it must fire at that unit.

The range factor is the maximum distance a unit may fire. When counting range, include the target hex but not the firing unit's hex.

The firing unit must have a clear line of sight (LOS) to the target. The LOS is a line between the center of the firing unit's hex to the center of the target hex. If any hex or hexside along the LOS is anything but clear terrain, the LOS is blocked and the unit may not fire. If the LOS is congruent to a hexside, it is blocked only if both hexes on either side of that hexside are blocked. Terrain in the firing unit's hex or the target hex does not block the LOS. Units (enemy or friendly) do not block LOS.

6.5 Defensive Archery

An inactive (defending) archer unit may fire at adjacent (only) attacking units. during the enemy archery phase. Each defending

unit may fire only once, regardless of how many times it is fired on. Use the procedure in 6.2. All archery fire is simultaneous; a unit disrupted by archery still gets to fire.

7.0 COMBAT

7.1 Combat Phase

Combat occurs between adjacent opposing units during each player's combat phase. The active player is the attacker, the inactive player the defender, regardless of the overall situation. Within the constraints described below, the attacker determines which of his units will attack which defending units. He also decides the order in which the combats are resolved, as long as all combats are resolved during that combat phase and no combat resolution is begun into the previously one has been completed.

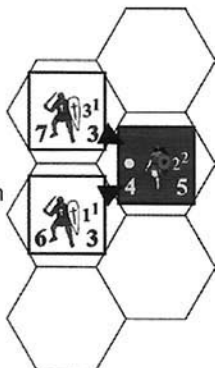
An attacking unit may fire in its archery phase and fight in the ensuing combat phase. A defending unit may take part in the archery phase and may be attacked in the combat phase of the same player turn. No unit may attack more than once per combat phase. The same enemy unit may be attacked during the archer fire phase and the combat phase of the same player turn.

7.2 Combat Procedure

Resolve a combat as follows.

1. Identify which attacking units will attack which defending units (7.3-7.5).
2. Total the combat factors of all the attacking units. Total the combat factors of all the defending units. Divide the attacker's total by the defender's total. Express the result as a ratio, rounding down to one of the odds ratios printed on the Combat Results Table (CRT).
3. Roll one die. Cross-index the result with the odds ratio column on the CRT to determine the combat result (7.6).
4. Apply the combat result (7.7-7.8).

For example, if 13 strength points are attacking four strength points, the combat odds ratio is 3.25:1, rounded off (always in favor of the defender) to 3:1. Having determined the combat odds, the attacker then rolls a die. The roll indicates a result on the CRT that's cross-indexed under the column heading corresponding to the calculated combat odds. That intersection of line and column yields a combat result.



7.3 Which Units Must Fight

All defending units in an active unit's ZOC at the beginning of a combat phase must be attacked in that combat phase. If a unit is in more than one active unit's EZOC, the attacker may determine which unit or units attacks that defender.

All friendly units in an EZOC must attack. If a unit is in more than one EZOC, the attacker may determine which defender the unit attacks.

Each unit may take part in only one combat; its combat strength may not be divided among different combats.

7.4 Multi-Unit & Multi-Hex Combat

An enemy occupied hex may be attacked by as many units as can be brought to bear from the six adjacent hexes. A single attacker may attack defending units in the six adjacent hexes.

The active player is free to combine attacking and defending units in any combination desired as long as:

1. all units required to attack or be attacked is involved in a combat, and
2. in any given combat, all attacking units are adjacent to all defending units.

The active player may make attacks at low odds to enable higher odds in other combats; there is no proscription against sacrificing units.

7.5 Effects of Terrain

Certain terrain types halve the strength of the attacking unit attacking into or out of the terrain. Before calculating the odds, halve the unit's combat strength, rounding fractions up. If halving more than one unit, halve all and round the total.

Hills cause the odds to be shifted leftward on column (1L). For example, if the odds of an attack are 2:1 against a defender on a hill, the odds shift to 1:1.

7.6 Explanation of Combat Results

AR = Attacker Retreat. All attacking units must retreat one hex (see 7.8). One defending unit may advance (7.9).

AL = Attacker Loss. The attacker must eliminate one involved attacking unit of his choice (7.7).

EX = Exchange. The attacker and defender each eliminate one involved unit of his choice (7.7).

DR = Defender Retreat (all involved defending units must retreat one hex; see 7.8). One attacking unit may advance (7.9).

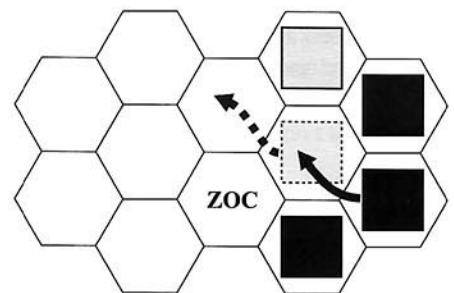
DL = Defender Loss. The defender must eliminate one involved defending unit of his choice (7.7).

— = **No Effect** (nothing happens to any involved unit on either side).

7.7 Unit Elimination

Elimination does not mean every man in a unit has been killed, but that enough have been killed or scattered to render the unit ineffective for game purposes. Keep eliminated units in a pile off map; they may be eligible for rally (11.2).

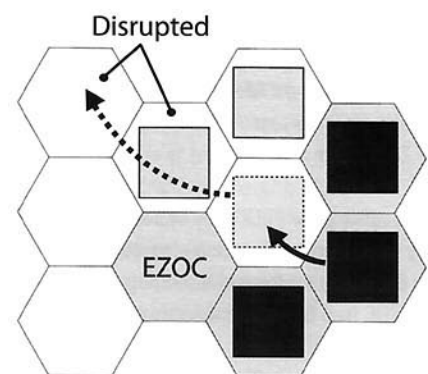
Retreat Example 1



7.8 Retreats

A unit required to retreat must be moved one hex away from its combat hex. The path of retreat may not cross or enter prohibited terrain, and may not enter an EZOC. If no eligible hex is available, the retreating unit is eliminated. If more than one eligible hex is available, the owning player chooses the direction of retreat.

Retreat Example 2



If the only hex available to a retreating unit is one already occupied by a friendly unit, the retreating unit may retreat through the friendly unit to a vacant (non-EZOC) hex beyond. Both the retreating unit and the retreated-through unit are disrupted (if already disrupted there is no further effect). A retreating unit may retreat through any number of friendly units, disrupting each, until

it reaches a safe hex. If no safe hex is available after any length of retreat, the retreating unit is eliminated in its last hex of retreat.

7.9 Advances

Whenever a hex is vacated as a result of combat, one victorious unit that participated in that combat may advance into the vacated hex (exception 9.2). Advancing is optional, but the option must be exercised immediately, before beginning the next combat resolution.

Only one unit may advance regardless of the number of participating units or the number of hexes vacated. Advancing is voluntary except for charging cavalry (see 9.6) and leaders (see 10.0).

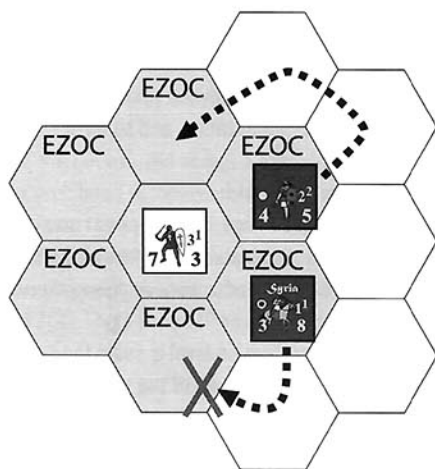
The advancing unit ignores EZOC. It may not attack again in that combat phase.

8.0 LIGHT TROOPS

8.1 Light Troops

Light troops (aka skirmishers) are units with a dot symbol. They exert no ZOC and may be able to leave (disengage from) EZOC (8.2) and/or retreat before combat (8.3). Note some light troops lose this ability when disrupted, and will have no dot on their disrupted sides.

8.2 Disengagement



8.21 A unit with a solid dot may move out of the EZOC of an enemy unit with an MA equal to or less than the MA of the light unit. The disengaging unit may not move directly into another EZOC, but may enter another EZOC after entering at least one non-EZOC hex.

8.22 A unit with an open dot may disengage as above, but may not enter another EZOC during the same movement phase.

8.23 Cavalry units using disengagement may not "charge" during the same player turn.

8.3 Retreat Before Combat

After an attack (regular combat, not archery or charging) is declared or against a unit with a solid dot, it may retreat before combat if it meets the standard for disengagement (above). The light unit(s) may retreat up to three hexes instead of one; each hex must be one eligible for retreat. One victorious unit may advance (still the one hex limit).

A unit with an open dot may disengage as above, but may not enter another EZOC during the same movement phase. They may not retreat before combat. (8.2 = yes; 8.3 = no.)

9.0 CAVALRY

Over the course of the Medieval period, the battlefield effectiveness of cavalry waxed and waned several times as a result of different improvements in weapons, discipline, and tactics of the various arms. The following rules underscore the many facets of cavalry during the period.

9.1 Cavalry Types

Cavalry units generally move and fight in the same ways as infantry units. The following sections indicate special characteristics of certain types of cavalry units.

9.2 Cavalry Retreats & Advances

When cavalry retreats from combat, it always retreats three hexes (or more if necessary to reach an eligible hex). It cannot retreat through EZOC. If it retreats through a friendly unit, neither the cavalry nor the other unit

is disrupted as a result of the retreat (but if already disrupted, a unit remains disrupted).

Cavalry advancing after combat may advance up to three hexes, still ignoring EZOC.

9.3 Light Cavalry

Cavalry with the dot symbol disengages and retreats before combat per 8.0.

9.4 Horse Archers

These units have two special abilities:

1. If not disrupted, they may retreat before combat when attacking as well as when defending. Treat the combat as an AR (i.e. they would not be eliminated making a very low odds attack). If disrupted, they must conduct regular combat.
2. They reorganize automatically - no die roll is needed (11.1).

9.5 Dismounted Cavalry



Dismounted

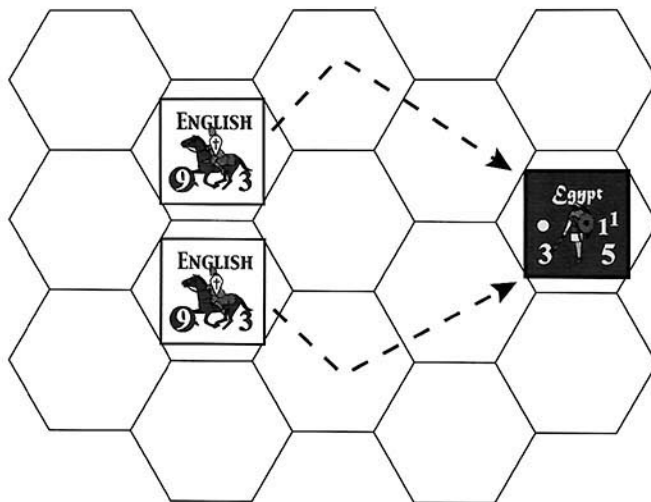


Some units have a stronger infantry unit on the front and a weaker cavalry unit on the back. These units are allowed to flip back and forth at the owning's player discretion at the beginning of the player's movement phase. If disrupted or forced to retreat in combat, they must flip to their weaker cavalry side.



Example:

Two Crusader heavy cavalry are Charging a Muslim light infantry unit. Because they are charging, the Muslim unit can't Retreat Before Combat. It can use Archery Fire against one of the Crusader cavalry units which would flip the Crusader unit over to its 3-6 side. This would give the Muslim unit a chance of a Dr result. Presuming a Dr result, the Muslim unit will retreat one hex, one of the cavalry must occupy the defender's hex, and the second cavalry unit may advance up to three hexes.



9.6 Heavy Cavalry & Charges

Some cavalry have a stronger slower cavalry unit on the front and a weaker faster cavalry unit on the back. These units are allowed to change sides at player discretion at the beginning of the player's movement phase if not in an EZOC.



Charge



No Charge

These units may "Charge" by flipping to their stronger side and moving adjacent to an enemy unit. That enemy unit may not retreat before combat (even if it has a dot). If they are successful in vacating the defender's hex, one of the charging units *must* occupy the hex. Charging units are flipped to their weaker side at the end of their charge.

They have an open dot on their weaker side that indicates they can disengage but may not enter another EZOC during the same movement phase. They may not retreat before combat.

Charging cavalry may enter or cross only clear terrain during a charge (they may start in any terrain but the first and subsequent hexes must be clear).

10.0 LEADERS

10.1 Leader Movement

Leaders move like any other units except:

1. they may not enter an EZOC unless it is already occupied by a friendly unit, and
2. they always may disengage from an EZOC or retreat before combat; no comparison of MA is necessary.



Combat Value

10.2 Leader Stacking

Any number of leaders may end a phase in the same hex as a friendly unit. One leader in a hex may add his combat value to the combat strength of the unit in the same hex. If the friendly unit is eliminated in combat, the leader remains in the hex although if any enemy unit advances into that hex after that combat, rule 10.4 must be enforced.

10.3 Leaders & Archery

Leaders do not affect archery attacks by units stacked with them. Leaders are not affected by archery attacks against them or units stacked with them.

10.4 Lone Leaders

A leader alone in a hex exerts no ZOC and may not attack. If attacked, he may retreat before combat (the attacking enemy may advance). If an enemy unit moves into a hex occupied by a lone leader (whether during movement, or retreat or advance after combat), the leader conducts an immediate retreat before combat. If no eligible retreat hex is available, the leader is eliminated.

11.0 MORALE

11.1 Reorganization

Each unit has a stronger "Ordered" (front) side and a weaker "Disordered" (back) side. Units become "Disordered" by archery fire (6.2) or during retreat after combat (see 7.7). They reorganize during the owning player's Reorganization & Rally phase.

During the R&R phase, the active player rolls one die for each "Disordered" unit. Disordered units reorganize on a die roll of 5-6 and are flipped to their "Ordered" side. Disordered units adjacent to enemy units subtract one (-1) from the die roll. If a leader is stacked with a unit to be reorganized, add the leader's value to the reorganization die roll.

11.2 Rally

The Exclusive Rules indicate a rally capability for each side. During a player's Reorganization & Rally Phase, he may attempt to rally one eliminated unit per turn. To attempt a rally, roll a die. If the die roll is within the range for the side, place one unit of the player's choice in the hex with a leader or adjacent if the leader already is stacked with another unit. If there is no adjacent hex not in an EZOC, the unit is not rallied. Rally ability may not be accumulated from turn to turn. If no units are eliminated, no rally attempt may be made. Once a unit has been rallied, it no longer counts as having been eliminated for purposes of victory conditions, points toward demoralization, and so forth.

11.3 Demoralization

Armies are fragile things. Casualties eat away at troop morale; at some point, they lose heart and become more interested in survival than victory.

An army's demoralization level is set in the Exclusive Rules. Keep count of the total combat strength of eliminated units. When that total is equal to or greater than the demoralization level for an army, it is demoralized.

Henceforth, all attacks by the demoralized army are shifted one odds column leftward (e.g. a 2:1 attack becomes a 1:1 attack).

Demoralization sets in the instant the level is reached, and the effects of apply to all combat occurring thereafter, even if starting in the middle of a combat phase.

An army recovers from demoralization if the rallying of units brings the current total

losses back below the demoralization level. Recovery also takes effect immediately. an army may be demoralized and recover any number of times per game.

For example, a player has a total of 150 combat strength points eliminated, which is equal to his side's demoralization level for that battle, but he then rallies a unit with a combat strength of "8." His losses are thus reduced from 150 to 142 (below the demoralization level), thereby nullifying demoralization for the time being.

11.4 Disintegration

An army's disintegration level is set in the Exclusive Rules. Keep count of the total combat strength of eliminated units. When that total is equal to or greater than the disintegration level for an army, it disintegrates and the opposing player wins an immediate automatic victory. If both sides disintegrate at the same time (through an EX result), the active player wins.

12.0 SYSTEM NOTES

The original intention for the games covered by this system was to include them in the *Battles of the Ancient World* system; after all, the armies of both eras were composed entirely of men armed with cold steel and bows. But there had been substantial developments in the intervening millennium.

Horses were bigger and stronger, leading to widespread adoption of the stirrup. This made cavalry substantially more powerful than their counterparts in ancient times, a true force not only on the fringes of battle, but at its very heart. The knights of Western Europe were the pinnacle of this development.

Bows too had improved. Alongside the venerable recurved bow of the horse archer were the crossbow and longbow, both improving the reach and killing power of foot archers.

Tactics changed as well. The phalanx of old had been not so much replaced as modified. Infantry still deployed in tightly packed formations, but these were long, thin shield walls rather than dense columns.

Rather than resort to a whole set of special rules, these changes were incorporated into a new system, which, while borrowing much from its predecessor, better reflects the essential nature of medieval battles.



Design Credits

System Design: Chris Perello

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Rules Booklet Layout: Callie Cummins & Lisé Patterson

Folio design: Lisé Patterson

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COMBAT RESULTS TABLE

Die Roll	1-4	1-3	1-2	1-1	2-1	3-1	4-1	5-1
1	AR	DR	DR	DR	DR	DL	DL	DL
2	AR	AR	DR	DR	DR	DR	DL	DL
3	AR	-	-	-	-	-	DR	DL
4	AL	AL	AR	-	DR	DR	DR	DR
5	AL	AL	AR	EX	EX	DR	DR	DR
6	AL	AL	AL	AR	AR	AR	DR	DR

NOTE: Attacks conducted at 6-1 or greater are an automatic DL.
Attacks conducted at 1-5 or less are an automatic AL.

AR = Attacker Retreat (all attacking units must retreat one hex).

AL = Attacker Loss (attacker must eliminate one attacking unit).

- = No Effect.

EX = Exchange (both attacker and defender eliminate one unit).

DR = Defender Retreat (the defending unit must retreat one hex).

DL = Defender Loss (defender must eliminate one defending unit).

TERRAIN EFFECTS CHART

Terrain	MP	Combat Effect
Clear	1	No effect
Hill	2	1L if defender on a hill and all attackers not on hill
Woods	3	No effect
River	3	Attacker halved out of
Swamp	3 (Inf only)	Attacker halved into or out of
Road	1	No effect (use other terrain in hex)
Dunes	3 (Trains P)	No effect

ACRE: THE THIRD CRUSADE OPENS



EXCLUSIVE RULES

13.0 INTRODUCTION

14.0 SET UP

15.0 SPECIAL RULES

16.0 GAME NOTES

17.0 ORDERS OF BATTLE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

13.0 INTRODUCTION

The destruction of the Crusader army by Saladin at Hattin in 1187 had led to the collapse of the Crusader kingdoms in the Levant, including the loss of Jerusalem. Guy of Lusignan, erstwhile ruler of the city appealed to the Europeans for aid, which soon arrived. Without waiting for the three main Crusader armies—led by King Philip of France, Emperor Frederick Barbarossa, and Richard I of England, Guy set out to take Acre (pronounced Ok-er) on the Levantine coast.

His first assault repulsed, Guy settled in for a siege. Meanwhile, Saladin gathered a portion of his army and rode to lift the siege. After preliminary skirmishing, the armies met east of the city on 4 October.

14.0 SET UP

14.1 First Player

The Crusader player sets up first. The Crusader player is the first player until the Muslim player declares his strategic withdrawal (15.5). Place the Turn marker in the "1" box of the TRT.

14.2 Crusader Deployment

Set up line facing Acre (hexes 0207-0212): four Trebuchet counters (15.3) and seven infantry units.

Crusader camp hexes (0514, 0515, 0614): place a camp marker and one unit in each. All remaining crusader units must be on the eastward-facing set up line (hexes 0902-0621). Every hex of the eastward-facing line must have a unit or a ZOC in it. Crusader leaders: may be placed with any unit.

14.3 Muslim Deployment

Set aside the seven units of the Acre garrison (see 15.4). Place a Muslim camp marker and one unit in each of hexes 2129, 2229, and 2329. All remaining Muslim units must be placed on the Muslim set up line (1201-0324). Each hex on the line must have a unit or a ZOC in it. Muslim leaders may be placed with any unit outside the Acre fortress.

14.4 Crusader Morale

Demoralization: 80 VP (see 16.2).

Disintegration: 110 VP (see 16.2).

Rally successful: 1-3.

14.5 Muslim Morale

Demoralization (before strategic withdrawal): 50 VP (see 16.2).

Disintegration (before strategic withdrawal): 75 VP (see 16.2).

Demoralization (after strategic withdrawal): 70 VP (see 16.2).

Disintegration (after strategic withdrawal): 100 VP (see 16.2).

Rally successful: 1-5.

15.0 SPECIAL RULES

15.1 Karr-wa-Farr

During the Crusader melee combat phase, after the Crusader player has announced a melee

against a Muslim infantry unit with a dot, the Muslim unit may conduct a regular retreat before combat (see 11.2) or it may conduct Karr-wa-Farr, the tactic of a feigned retreat to draw a Crusader unit into advancing too far and making it vulnerable to being surrounded. If the retreating unit is not disrupted, roll one die for each involved Crusader unit. Subtract 3 from the result and subtract the highest value of any Crusader leader in that melee. If the result is zero or less, the Muslim unit retreats normally per 11.2 and the Crusader unit may advance or not advance at its option.

If the result is positive, the Muslim unit retreats that number of hexes and one of the Crusader units must follow the Muslim unit retreat path, stopping when the retreating unit stops. Ignore the ZOC of any other Muslim units: in other words, treat it as a required advance after combat. Note: Karr-wa-Farr may not be used if the Crusader attack includes a charging cavalry unit.

15.2 Camp Hexes & Plunder

When a unit enters an enemy camp hex, it is captured; remove it from the map. Then roll one die; on a roll of 4-6, the unit scatters to plunder; remove it from the map.

15.3 Trebuchets

The trebuchets represent the siege weapons and stone stockpiles needed to prosecute the siege. Although they could be replaced, it would take weeks of backbreaking work.

The four counters cannot move. Crusader units may move into and through the hexes freely, and may stop in one at the end of movement and/or combat. If an

Muslim unit enters the hex, the trebuchet is captured; remove it from the map.

15.4 The Fortress of Acre

Hexes 0108-0112 represent the fortress walls protecting the city. Crusader units may not enter or attack into these hexes, and Crusader ZOC do not extend into them.

The units of the Acre garrison may attempt a sortie on any one game turn during the second stage of the battle. These units are placed, one unit per hex, on the Acre fortress hexes. While in these hexes, they are allowed to ignore Ar results.

15.5 Muslim Strategic Withdrawal

To simulate the see-saw nature of this battle, the battle is divided into two stages. At the beginning of any Muslim movement phase after the Muslims have lost 50VP (and are demoralized), the Muslim player may announce a strategic withdrawal (Note: if the Muslim player chooses not to withdraw, he risks disintegration before his next opportunity to announce a withdrawal). Remove the Muslim forces from the map being careful not to mix them with the eliminated units.

All disorganized units of both sides flip to their organized side. Conduct a special rally phase for both sides, rolling once for each eliminated unit (not eliminated leaders—each leader in play may be used once to influence a die roll).

After the rally, the Crusader player conducts a movement phase. No Crusader unit may enter a hex on the east or south map edges except to enter a Muslim camp hex.

The Muslim forces are then deployed along the easternmost hex row. The turn maker is restarted on Turn 1 with the Muslims moving first. Play through Turn 10, then calculate victory.

16.0 VICTORY CONDITIONS

16.1 Clear Victory

Either player wins a clear victory if the enemy army disintegrates. The Muslim player wins a clear victory if at the end of the game he can trace a line of hexes free of enemy units or EZOCs from the eastern edge of the map to an Acre fortress hex.

16.2 Victory Points

If neither player realizes a clear victory, calculate the victory points for each player per the schedule below. The player with the greater total wins.

1 VP per eliminated enemy strength point
15 VP for the Crusader player if

Saladin is a casualty

10 VP for the Muslim player if Guy is a casualty

2 VP times the leader value for any other leader casualty

5 VP per turn remaining in the first stage for the Crusader if the Muslim declares his strategic withdrawal (e.g. 50 VP if declared on Turn 1, 45 VP if declared on Turn 2, and so on).

5 VP per enemy camp captured

5 VP for the Moslem player for each

Trebuchet destroyed

17.0 GAME NOTES

17.1 Designer's Notes

There were three issues not accounted for in the standard rules that had to be addressed in this design. First was the Moslem *karr-wa-farr* tactics. This already had been dealt with in the Arsuf design so it was a simple matter to transfer it to this game (fought by similar but not identical armies).

The citadel of Acre also had to be accounted for, particularly the sortie by the garrison.

The solution was to make a special rule for the fortress hexes rather than for the units themselves. We did not include the possibility of breaking into the fortress in a coup because only a small portion of the garrison sortied.

Finally, there was the issue of the Moslem withdrawal. Historically, they pulled back, reorganized, and came forward again to only mixed success. We tried to craft the rule in such a way that the timing of the withdrawal is important and its effect is less than overwhelming.

17.2 Player Notes

This is a classic situation in that each player has a period of offense and one of defense.

The Crusaders have the advantage in the early going with more powerful units. However, the Moslems get what amounts to a do-over after calling for the withdrawal, and should have the advantage in the second half if they have played carefully in the first.

Crusader. You must make hay while the sun shines. It is not enough to eliminate Moslem units, you must eliminate them without suffering heavy losses yourself because your recovery after the withdrawal is limited. Keep Augustus' principle in mind: *make haste slowly*. You must turn at least one Moslem flank, requiring a long line, but you cannot afford to leave the center too weak or you risk losing units. Keep the siege lines manned, not only to protect the trebuchets but to prevent a Moslem force getting loose behind your lines.

When the withdrawn Moslem units return, keep a solid line and fend them off as best you can. Don't hold on to ground at the cost of lost units.

Moslem. You have two critical decisions to make, both involving timing: when to make the sortie, and when to call for a withdrawal.

The simple advice on the sortie is make it when it will do the most damage. This will be when the Crusader has weakened his line so much so you have a chance for some easy kills. However, don't call for it just before you announce your withdrawal or you lose the use of the sortie force.

The timing of the withdrawal is crucial. By definition you will have lost many units. Given the nature of the fighting, this means the momentum is going to swing every-more heavily against you. Get out while the getting is good to maximize your strength in the second half. On the other hand, if you have a chance at inflicting serious losses (say, a surrounded group of Crusaders), take it.

18.0 ORDERS OF BATTLE

Like all medieval battles the order of battle at Acre is speculative, this one more so than usual because accounts of the battle are intertwined with the two-year siege. The force arrayed for battle both came from armies in the process of formation. Guy had only his retainers, some locally raised forces, the Templars, and the first group of reinforcements from Europe (what eventually would blossom into the Third Crusade). Saladin had his Mamluks, who were a standing force, and some hastily gathered levies. His army would not reach its full strength for some months. The best estimate is the Crusaders totaled something less than 10,000 total, with as few as 400 knights, while Saladin had slightly more than 10,000 outside the walls, with as many as 5,000 available inside the fortress (though likely fewer took part in the sortie).

Design Credits

System Design: Chris Perello

System Development: Christopher Cummins, Ty Bomba, Chris Perello.

Playtesting: Christopher Cummins, Ty Bomba, Chris Perello

Map Graphics: Joe Youst


Counter Graphics: Larry Hoffman

Rules Booklet Layout: Callie Cummins & Lisé Patterson

Folio design: Lisé Patterson

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Acre (front)

 +2 10	 +1 10	 +1 10	 +2 10	 9 3	 9 3	 1 1	 1 1	 1 1	 1 1
 7 3	 7 3	 7 3	 7 3	 6 3	 6 3	 6 3	 6 3	 5 3	 5 3
 5 3	 5 3	 5 3	 5 3	 5 3	 5 3	 4 3	 4 3	 5 3	 5 3
 5 3	 5 3	 5 3	 5 3	 5 3	 5 3	 5 3	 5 3		
 7 4	 6 4	 6 4	 6 4	 +3 10	 +2 10				
 7 4	 6 4	 6 4	 6 4	 3 5	 3 5	 +3 10	 +1 10	 +1 10	
 2 8	 2 8	 3 5	 3 5	 2 8	 2 8	 3 5	 3 5	 2 8	 2 8
 3 5	 3 5	 2 8	 2 8	 4 5	 4 5	 4 5	 4 5	 4 8	 4 8
 4 3	 4 3	 4 1	 4 1	 4 1	 4 1	 4 1	 4 1	 4 1	 +1 1/2
 +1 1/2	 +1 1/2	 +1 1/2	 +1 1/2	 +1 1/2	 +1 1/2	 +1 1/2	 +1 1/2	 +1 1/2	 +1 1/2

Acce (back)



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Road

Swamp

Dunes

Hills

Clear

Up

Camp

Deployment

Sea

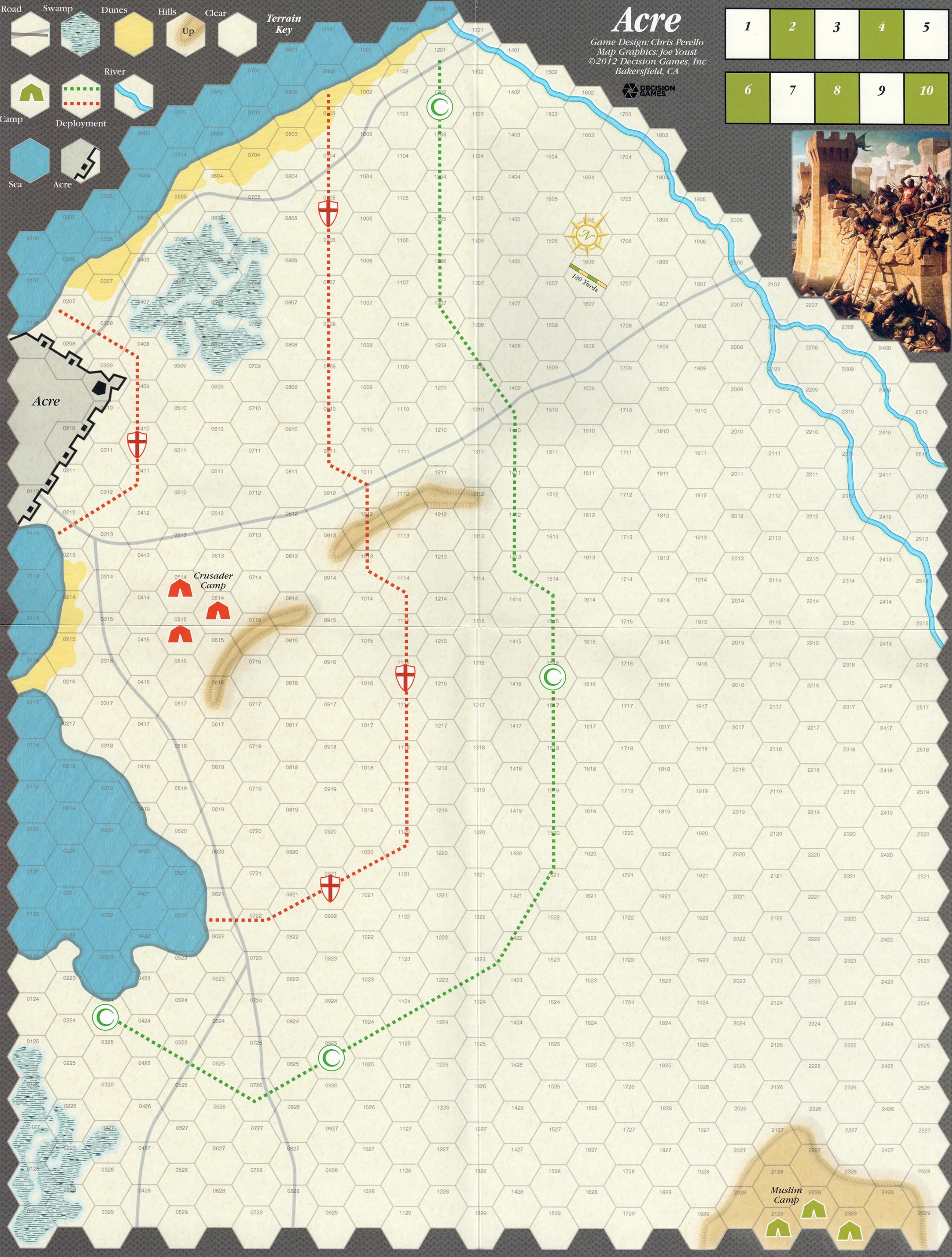
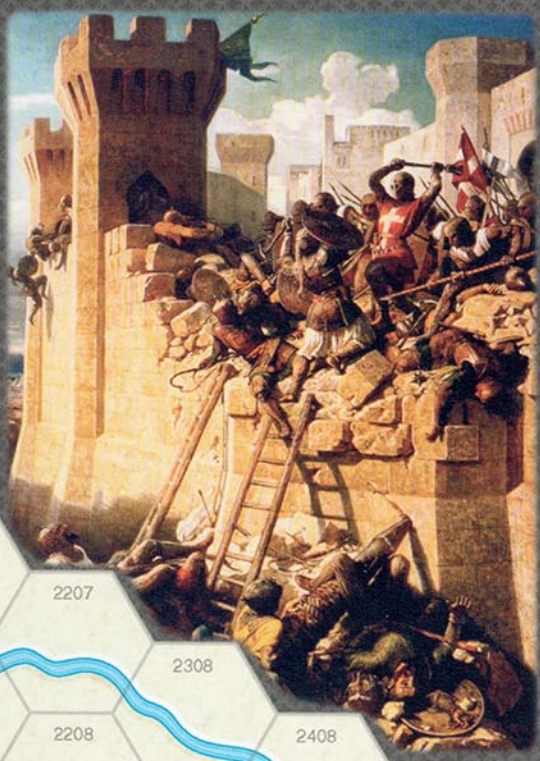
Acre

Terrain Key

Game Design: Chris Perello
Map Graphics: Joe Youst
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1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10



The Third Crusade Opens

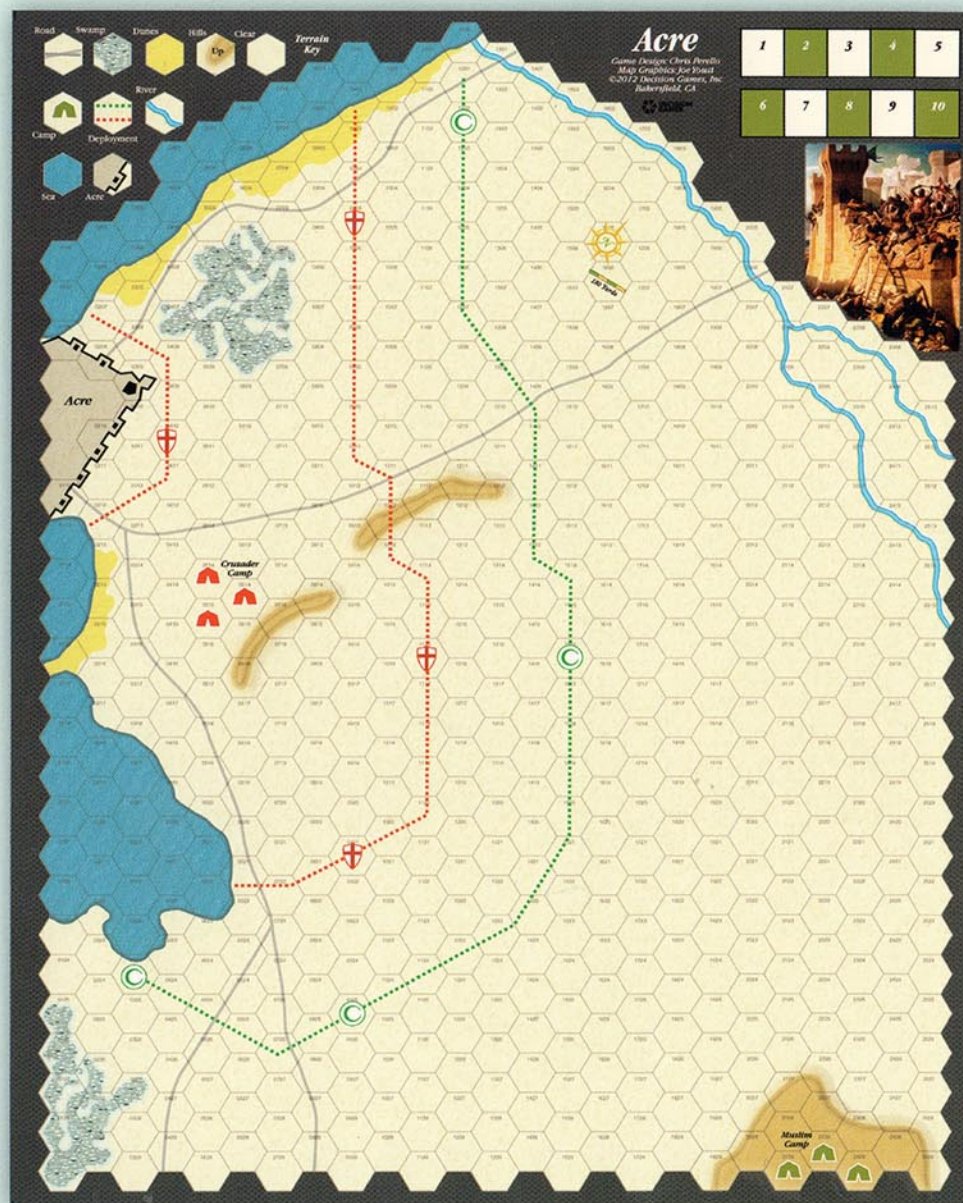
It was the destruction of the Crusader army by Saladin at Hattin in 1187 that had led to the collapse of the Crusader kingdoms in the Levant, including the loss of Jerusalem. Guy of Lusignan, the erstwhile ruler of the city, appealed to the Europeans for aid, which soon arrived. But without waiting for the three main Crusader armies — led by King Philip of France, Emperor Frederick Barbarossa, and Richard I of England — Guy set out to capture Acre on the Levantine coast. His first assault was repulsed and Guy settled in for a siege. Meanwhile, Saladin gathered a portion of his army and rode in to lift the siege. After preliminary skirmishing, the opposing armies met east of the city on 4 October.

Acre uses the new *Battles of the Medieval World* system, a variation on the venerable *Battles of the Ancient World* system. The battle is dominated by masses of heavy cavalry and disciplined lines of heavily-armed and armored men-at-arms. Swirling around these forces are masses of foot- and horse-archers, whose purpose is to disrupt the heavy formations and make them easy prey for their counterparts. Using the classic Combat Results Table, the fighting is close and bloody until the morale of one side weakens. Once a line breaks, the victor must pursue ruthlessly to prevent a rally. Leaders enhance combat power and restore broken formations.

At *Acre*, the Crusaders have more combat power, but must maintain a long line to protect their siege works. The Arabs are quick but light, and must find a way to isolate portions of the Crusader army and defeat it in detail. Victory will go to the player who deploys his army to best utilize his strengths and take advantage of enemy weaknesses.

Game Contents:

- 17 x 22" terrain map
- 100 die-cut counters
- One Standard Rules booklet for this series
- One Exclusive Rules booklet for this title



ACRE

PLAYERS  2

LEVEL II III X XX XXX DIVISION

HEX SCALE  200 yd (183 m)

PLAYING TIME  1-2 hrs

COMPLEXITY  LOW

SOLITAIRE  HIGH



1619

Each counter represents an individual Crusader or Muslim from among those engaged in the battle.